

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 FEAE-00

INT-05 TRSE-00 AID-05 ACDA-05 IO-10 /102 W

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R 150440Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9888

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 2669

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR ASEAN XC ID

SUBJ: INDONESIAN VIEWS ON ASEAN

REF: KL 2660

1. SUMMARY: ACCORDING INDONESIAN INTELLIGENCE SOURCE, GOI SATISFIED WITH INITIAL CLOSED DOOR DISCUSSIONS OF ASEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MAY 14. SOURCE SAID GOI IS MAINLY INTERESTED IN STIFFENING THAI RESOLVE TO PREVENT RTG FROM RUSHING INTO APPEASEMENT OF INDOCHINESE COMMUNIST REGIMES. REGARDING US BASES, SOURCE SAID GOI IS ENCOURAGING PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT
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TO ALLOW US TO RETAIN CLARK AFB AND SUBIC BAY NAVAL BASE

BECAUSE THESE ARE VIEWED AS ANCHORS OF CREDIBLE US PRESENCE IN WESTERN PACIFIC. END SUMMARY.

2. ON MAY 14, EMBOFF MET WITH ADVISER TO GOI DELEGATION TO FONMIN'S CONFERENCE LIM BIAN KIE (AKA JUSUF WANANDI), AN ASSISTANT OF GOI INTELLIGENCE CHIEF MAJOR GENERAL ALI MURTOPO. BIAN KIE SAID THAT PRINCIPAL GOI OBJECTIVES AT FONMINS' CONF ARE TO PREVENT HASTY OVERREACTIONS TO US DEFEATS IN INDOCHINA AND TO STIFFEN THAI RESOLVE TO PREVENT RTG CAPITULATION TO COMMUNISTS. REGARDING THAI SITUATION, GOI FEELS THAT PRESENT WEAK THAI GOVERNMENT CANNOT LONG RESIST BLANDISHMENTS OF NEW INDOCHINESE COMMUNIST REGIMES AND, AS FINAL STEP, MAY SOON REPEAT ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW. BIAN KIE SAID GOI AND OTHER (UNNAMED) ASEAN COUNTRIES HAVE URGED RTG NOT TO REPEAL ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW AND TO MOVE SLOWLY AND CAREFULLY IN INITIATING DIPLOMATIC AND OTHER OFFICIAL CONTACTS WITH NEW CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENTS.

3. BIAN KIE CONTINUED THAT THAI DELEGATION TO FONMINS' CONF HAS ASKED FOR CONCRETE GESTURES OF ASEAN SUPPORT OF RTG. THAI FONMIN CHATCHAI IN CLOSED DOOR SESSION EARLY MAY 14 ASKED WHAT MILITARY AND OTHER AID ASEAN NATIONS ARE PREPARED TO GIVE TO THAILAND TO ENABLE RTG TO RESIST COMMUNISTS. BIAN KIE SPECULATED THAT ASEAN NATIONS MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SMALL AMOUNTS OF MILITARY HARDWARE AND TRAINING, BUT HE OPINED THAT THESE REALLY ARE NOT NECESSARY SINCE US HAS ALREADY GIVEN RTG THE WHEREWITHAL TO COUNTER ANY ARMED THREATS. ACCORDING TO BIAN KIE, CHATCHAI ALSO MADE PLEA FOR NON-MILITARY SUPPORT, PARTICULARLY GUARANTEES OF PETROLEUM AND FERTILIZER SUPPLIES WHICH CREATED DIFFICULTIES FOR RTG DURING 1974 OIL CRISIS. BIAN KIE COMMENTED THAT INDONESIA CAN NO LONGER TAKE POSITION OF REFUSING TO HELP ASEAN ALLIES WITH PETROLEUM SUPPLIES AND THAT SOME GUARANTEES WILL PROBABLY BE GIVEN TO RTG BY GOI AND PERHAPS MALAYSIA. ALSO, AS NOTED PARA 5 REFTTEL, CHATCHAI SAID RTG IS WILLING TO AID FELLOW ASEAN NATIONS IN OVERCOMING RICE SHORTAGES AS QUID PRO QUO FOR OTHER FORMS OF MUTUAL SUPPORT.

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4. BIAN KIE SAID GOI HAS FOUND PHILIPPINE GOVT POSITION ON US BASES TO BE WORRISOME. HE SAID FONMIN MALIK WAS CHASTISED BY INDONESIAN MILITARY AND INTELLIGENCE OFFICIALS WHEN HE SUGGESTED RECENTLY THAT GOP ASK US TO WITHDRAW FROM CLARK AND SUBIC. BIAN KIE ADDED: "YOU DIDN'T FIND ANY SUCH STATEMENTS IN MALIK'S SPEECH THIS TIME, DID YOU?" (SEE ALSO JAKARTA 5538.) BIAN KIE WENT ON THAT GOI BELIEVES CLARK

AND SUBIC ARE NECESSARY FOR US TO MAINTAIN CREDIBLE PRESENCE IN WESTERN PACIFIC; CONSEQUENTLY, GOI HAS QUIETLY ATTEMPTED TO PERSUADE GOP NOT TO RUSH INTO BASE NEGOTIATIONS BUT TO KEEP SITUATION FLEXIBLE AT LEAST UNTIL AFTER 1976 US ELECTIONS. BIAN KIE REASONED THAT US POLICIES IN ASIA WILL BE SHAPED BY NEXT ADMINISTRATION, AND THAT ASEAN NATIONS CAN PROBABLY RIDE THINGS OUT UNTIL THEN. IN THIS RESPECT, BIAN KIE NOTED WITH SOME SATISFACTION THAT IN HIS OPENING STATEMENT MAY 13 FONMIN ROMULO SOFTPEDALED THE PROBLEM OF US BASES AND DID NOT MAKE SHRILL STATEMENT CALLING FOR EARLY US WITHDRAWAL (PARA 7 REFTTEL).

5. BIAN KIE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT GOI IS HAVING DIFFICULTY KEEPING THE MALAYSIANS IN CHECK. IN PARTICULAR, HE ACCUSED THE "FOREIGN MINISTRY BOYS" OF URGING PM RAZAK AS WELL AS COUNTERPARTS IN THAILAND AND THE PHILIPPINES TO PRESS FOR EARLY CLOSURE OF ALL US BASES IN REGION, INCLUDING TAIWAN AND OKINAWA. HE ADDED THAT GOM HOME AFFAIRS MINISTER GHAZALI SHAFIE HAS BEEN FOOLED BY HIS OWN RHETORIC IN CALLING FOR END OF US MILITARY-POLITICAL PRESENCE IN SOUTHEAST ASIA (KL 2510), BUT "DOWN DEEP" GHAZALI PROBABLY IS "AS NERVOUS AS THE REST OF US." ONE OF MALAYSIA'S DIFFICULTIES, HE SAID, IS INABILITY OF PERSONS OTHER THAN A FEW FOREIGN MINISTRY ADVISERS AND SELECTED DIPLOMATS TO GET THEIR VIEWS ACROSS TO RAZAK; BIAN KIE PERCEIVES THAT RAZAK USUALLY ACTS ON ANY STRONG CASE THAT IS PRESENTED TO HIM WITHOUT GOING THROUGH THE INDONESIAN PROCESS OF MUSJAWARAH (CONSULTATION AND CONCILIATION) IN WHICH ALL VIEWS ARE HEARD AND COMPROMISED OUT. THUS, BIAN KIE FEELS THAT MALAYSIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD SOUTHEAST ASIA ARE OFTEN UNREALISTIC AND REPRESENT ONLY ONE FACTION OF THE GOM. CONFIDENTIAL

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6. REGARDING SINGAPORE, BIAN KIE SAID GOS HAS AGREED TO JOIN JOINT SEA PATROLLING OPERATION IN SOUTH CHINA SEA, HEADQUARTERS OF WHICH WILL BE ON GREAT NATUNA ISLAND (KL 2596). NOTING THAT GOI HAS LONG ARGUED FOR MORE TANGIBLE FORMS OF COOPERATION AMONG ASEAN NATIONS, IMS COUNTRIES FOUND THEY COULD EASILY AGREE ON NEED TO PREVENT SMUGGLING OF ARMS IN SOUTH CHINA SEA. WEAK LINK, HOWEVER, IS STILL EXPOSED FLANK OF KRA PENINSULA WHERE THAI-MALAYSIAN NAVAL COOPERATION HAS BEEN NON-EXISTENT. OVER LONG TERM, BIAN KIE BELIEVES NEED OF ASEAN NATIONS TO PULL TOGETHER ON SELECTED SECURITY PROBLEMS (SUCH AS JOINT SEA PATROLLING, AIR DEFENSE AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT COMPLEMENTARITY) WILL BREAK DOWN TRADITIONAL

ANTIPATHIES AND SUSPICIONS, PERHAPS LEADING TO
TERMINATION OF MALAYSIAN INVOLVEMENT IN SOUTHERN
PHILIPPINES AND ACCESS BY SINGAPORE TO MALAYSIAN AIR
SPACE FOR TRAINING PURPOSES.
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COLLECTIVE SECURITY, FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY BASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUALA02669
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750170-1251
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750550/aaaabssz.tel
Line Count: 174
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 KL 2660
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <26 SEP 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INDONESIAN VIEWS ON ASEAN
TAGS: PFOR, XC, ID, US, ASEAN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006